

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 HA-05 ARA-10 CIAE-00  
DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05  
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 ACDA-12 /116 W  
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P R 301225Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8742  
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA  
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAR ES SALAAM 2282

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y FOR EO TAGS & SUBJ

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PEPR, MILL, CG, FR, TZ, OAU  
SUBJECT: TANZANIAN EDITORIAL COMMENT ON FRENCH THREAT TO  
AFRICA

1. SHABA DEVELOPMENTS AND ENSUING VERSAILLES FRANCOPHONE  
SECURITY CONFERENCE HAVE CLEARLY HEIGHTENED TANGOV CONCERNS  
ABOUT FRANCE'S MILITARY ACTIVITIES IN AFRICA AND THE RELIANCE OF  
SEVERAL FRANCOPHONE STATES ON FRENCH MILITARY ASSISTANCE.

2. EDITORIAL IN MAY 25 GOVERNMENT-OWNED DAILY NEWS TOOK OAU  
PRESIDENT BONGO TO TASK FOR ENDORSING FRENCH MILITARY  
INTERVENTION TO PROTECT AFRICAN STATES AGAINST ALLEGED CUBAN AND  
SOVIET THREATS. EDITORIAL, IN CONTEXT OF OAU'S FIFTEENTH  
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ANNIVERSARY, APPEARED ALSO TO BE A WARNING THAT OAU SHOULD NOT  
DIVIDE ITSELF ALONG OLD COLONIAL LINES.

3. EDITORIAL IN DAILY NEWS OF MAY 29 RAISED SAME THEME IN  
COMMENTING ON THE MEETING IN DAR ES SALAAM OF THE OAU  
LIBERATION COMMITTEE STANDING COMMITTEES. EDITORIAL SAID  
AFRICA'S POLITICAL FORTUNES WERE AT A "LOW EBB." "BEHIND THE

CONTINENT'S PROBLEMS (CONFLICTS BETWEEN OAU MEMBERS) ARE IMPERIALIST MACHINATIONS. FACED WITH AFRICA'S VICTORIOUS STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM AND THE RESULTANT CRUMBLING OF COLONIAL REGIMES, IMPERIALISM IS BENT ON CONSOLIDATING ITS MILITARY PRESENCE ON THE CONTINENT. THAT IS WHY THE FRENCH ARE FREELY INTERFERING MILITARILY IN ZAIRE, CHAD, AND MAURITANIA TO FIGHT WARS ON BEHALF OF FAVORED GOVERNMENTS." EDITORIAL THEN BLASTED FRANCOPHONE AFRICAN STATES FOR TRAVELLING TO FRANCE FOR TALKS ABOUT "THEIR COMMON DEFENSE FORCE." THIS DEVELOPMENT WAS TRAGIC, "IN FACT SO TRAGIC THAT EVEN THE RHETORICA CHARACTERISTIC OF OAU RESOLUTIONS CAN HARDLY COVER IT UP."

4. DAILY NEWS OF MAY 30 CONTINUED THE ATTACK AGAINST FRANCE AND WARNED AGAINST A "SECOND PARTITION OF AFRICA." EDITORIAL BERATED FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER DE GUIRINGAUD'S "ARROGANCE" IN HIS ALLEGED ASSERTION THAT FRANCE HAD TO MAKE ITSELF RESPECTED IN AFRICA. "NOW, MORE THAN ANY OTHER FORMER COLONIAL POWER, FRANCE IS DETERMINED TO USE HER INFLUENCE TO CREATE A NEO-COLONIAL BLOCK ON OUR CONTINENT AIMED AGAINST THE MOVEMENT FOR THE TOTAL LIBERATION OF AFRICA. BESIDES OPEN MILITARY INTERVENTION (IN CHAD, SENEGAL, GABON, DJIBOUTI, ETC.), FRANCE HAS ALSO COVERTLY AIDED PUPPET MOVEMENTS IN AFRICA FIGHTING AGAINST PROGRESSIVE GOVERNMENTS." EDITORIAL CONCLUDED THAT AFRICAN REVOLUTION WOULD SUCCEED DESPITE FRENCH INTERVENTION.

5. COMMENT. TANGOV HAS LONG BEEN CRITICAL OF FRANCE'S  
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CLOSE TIES TO ITS FORMER COLONIES. IT NOW APPEARS TO BELIEVE THAT FRENCH INVOLVEMENT HAS THE POTENTIAL FOR SERIOUSLY DIVIDING AFRICA AND THAT FRANCE COULD EVEN PRESENT A THREAT TO THE CONTINENT'S PROGRESSIVE ELEMENTS. DIRECT MENTION HAS NOT BEEN MADE OF US AND OTHER WESTERN STATES BUT TANGOV IS NOT LIKELY TO SEE FRANCE OPERATING WHOLLY INDEPENDENTLY.

6. FRENCH MILITARY ACTIVITIES INFLUENCE DIRECTLY TANGOV'S PERCEPTION OF A DESIREABLE ROLE FOR SOVIETS AND CUBANS IN HELPING PROTECT AND CONSOLIDATE SOCIALIST GAINS IN AFRICA (DAR ES SALAAM 2271 NOTAL).  
WALKER

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## Message Attributes

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